United Nations S/2001/49

Security Council

Distr.: General
16 January 2001

Original: English

Letter dated 16 January 2001 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to transmit to you herewith the interim report of the Expert Panel on the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources and Other Forms of Wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, submitted to me by the Chairperson of the Panel, in pursuance of the statement by the President of the Security Council S/PRST/2000/20, dated 2 June 2000 (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would bring the present letter and the attached report to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Kofi A. **Annan**

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Annex

Interim report of the United Nations Expert Panel on the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources and Other Forms of Wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo

I. Introduction

1. By its presidential statement dated 2 June 2000 (S/PRST/2000/20), the Security Council requested the Secretary-General to establish an expert panel on the illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo for a period of six months, with the following mandate:

> "To follow up on reports and collect information on all activities of illegal exploitation of natural resources and other forms of wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including in violation of the sovereignty of that country;
>
> "To research and analyse the links between the exploitation of the natural resources and other forms of wealth in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the continuation of the conflict;
>
> "To revert to the Council with recommendations."

2. The Secretary-General, in his letter to the President of the Security Council dated 31 July 2000 (S/2000/796), notified the President that the composition of the Panel would be as follows:

Mme. Safiatou Ba-N'Daw (Côte d'Ivoire) (Chairperson)

Mr. François Ekoko (Cameroon)

Mr. Mel Holt (United States of America)

Mr. Henri Maire (Switzerland)

Mr. Moustapha Tall (Senegal)

3. The Panel is assisted in the field by a technical adviser, a political officer, an administrator and a secretary.

4. The Panel was established in Nairobi on 18 September 2000 following a series of briefings and consultations at United Nations Headquarters, from 13 to 15 September, with members of the Security Council, representatives of other interested Member States and Secretariat officials. Some members of the Panel visited Brussels en route to Nairobi for consultations.

II. Key considerations

A. The Panel's interpretation of its mandate

5. The Panel devoted considerable discussion to the question of how to interpret and carry out its mandate. The assumption behind the mandate is that the parties to the conflict are motivated by desire to control and profit from the natural resources

of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and that they finance their armies and their military operations by exploiting those resources.

6. The Panel has decided to proceed on the assumption that, if this is indeed the case, it would be possible to identify the resources exploited, the laws that have been violated, the parties involved in the exploitation, the companies and individuals involved in the trade, the amount of the revenues appropriated, the cost of maintaining armies in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and of the military operations conducted there and the extent to which those costs were met through the illegal exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

7. The Panel further assumes that, in respect to each of these questions, evidence may exist in documentary or other reliable form, including statements by reliable witnesses that can be obtained and produced in support of any allegation made.

B. Modus operandi of the Panel

8. The Panel adopted the following modus operandi. The Chairperson, accompanied by some or all members, first met with Government officials from the States parties to the conflict and their counterparts in the rebel movements to explain the mandate of the Panel and to seek the cooperation of the Governments and movements concerned. At the same time, panel members and staff pursued allegations made by Governments or other sources concerning the activities described above, both with the cooperation of those Governments and using their own resources. The Panel also contacted, where possible, companies and individuals identified to it as participating in such activities and requested information concerning the allegations.

9. The Panel received varying levels of cooperation from its interlocutors, ranging from apparent openness to near hostility. In many cases, Government officials were not made available to meet with the Panel at its request. Even where Governments appeared to be more cooperative, the Panel was sometimes obliged to meet all Ministers together rather than separately, as it would have preferred. Even in cases where the Panel encountered a high degree of cooperation, its requests to meet with some individuals were not accommodated.

10. In some cases, information promised by the Panel's interlocutors, including Government Ministers, has not yet been provided. In the case of the two rival wings of the Congolese Rally for Democracy (RCD), the Panel is concerned that the cooperation promised during its initial visits might not be forthcoming in view of the leadership changes in both wings since that time.

11. In considering the full implications of its mandate, the Panel devoted particular attention to the questions of what constituted "illegal" exploitation; what "other forms of wealth" apart from natural resources might be subject to exploitation; and what forms of illegal exploitation might not be conducted "in violation of the sovereignty" of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

C. Particular difficulties encountered

12. One of the most serious problems facing the Panel is the paucity of detailed and reliable information, including statistics, as to the nature, extent, location, yield and value of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Decades of Government neglect, mismanagement and corruption, including widespread evasion of taxes and customs duties, not to mention the effects of conflict since 1996, make it almost impossible to establish a precise and impartial factual picture of the country's natural resource base and exploitation patterns. Though rumour and anecdote abound, documentary evidence is almost non-existent. Mines and other sources of natural wealth are remote and heavily guarded, often located in areas subject to outbreaks of fighting or armed attacks against the local population. Roads are few and ill-maintained and communications poor. The Panel has found in its own investigations that activity around the mines is cloaked by an atmosphere of lawlessness, violence and fear.

13. In exceptional cases, visits the Panel had planned to make were cancelled or postponed because of unrest or strikes or because the interlocutors changed their minds.

III. Activities of the Panel

A. Kenya

14. The Panel initiated contacts with officials of the Government of Kenya, the diplomatic community, the Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the Great Lakes Region, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations (NGOs), members of civil society and private individuals.

15. At a meeting with the Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Panel acquainted him with its nature and purpose and received the Minister's pledge of assistance and cooperation. Panel members also met the Managing Director of the Kenya Ports Authority and senior customs officials.

16. The Panel met with the Ambassadors of Belgium, the Russian Federation and France and with officials of the Embassy of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, who welcomed the Panel and expressed willingness to be of assistance to it. Some interlocuters noted that some developed countries had amassed a broad base of geological information about the Democratic Republic of the Congo over the course of many years of studies that might be of interest to the Panel.

B. Democratic Republic of the Congo

Meetings with government officials

17. The Panel was received by Onfre Ntuaremba, General Commissioner of the Government for relations with the United Nations Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUC). Mr. Ntuaremba provided the Panel with information regarding what he described as the pillage of the Democratic

Republic of the Congo in five domains: human, social, agricultural, mining and the environment.

18. The Minister of Human Rights provided the Panel with reports detailing violations of human rights in the occupied zones. He emphasized the human aspect of exploitation.

19. The Panel met with officials from the Ministry of Mines, who briefed the Panel as to which mineral resources they felt were the most significant and the locations of these minerals throughout the Democratic Republic of the Congo. They also provided an overview of the country's legislation governing the exploitation of mineral resources and cited examples of investment opportunities that had been lost due to the conflict. They noted that occupying forces were plundering gold, diamonds and colombo-tantalite (coltan) in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. According to the officials, the fighting in Kisangani between Rwandan and Ugandan forces was evidence of their struggle for the control of mineral resources in that area.

20. The Minister of Land Management, Environment and Tourism informed the Panel that income from forest exploitation was declining as a result of the war. Many logging companies had ceased operations and saw mills had closed, especially in areas controlled by the Government because timber comes primarily from areas controlled by rebel movements. The Minister deplored the loss of income from tourism and the massacre of protected species such as gorillas, elephants, and okapis.

21. The Minister of Agriculture and Livestock provided an assessment of the impact of the conflict on the agricultural sector. He described the pillage that took place immediately after the beginning of the 1998 war, mainly the theft of livestock and the disappearance of stocks of coffee and other agricultural products. The Minister stated that, due to the war, most agricultural outreach programmes were stopped, as was the supply of agricultural products from the eastern to the western part of the country. According to the Minister, this had led to an increase in the price of food products in the main cities and the decline in food production and commercial crops in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Explaining the change in the flow of agricultural products between the east and west of the Democratic Republic of the Congo before 1998, the Minister reported that malnutrition, food shortages and hunger had been reported in places where there was once an abundance of food.

22. The Minister of Energy revealed another dimension regarding the exploitation of other resources. He provided a chart of electrical plants that had fallen into the hands of the rebel groups. He drew the Panel's attention to the use of hydropower by Rwanda without any financial compensation. He also informed the Panel that there was an agreement between his Government and the Government of Zimbabwe on the use of hydropower supplied by the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

23. In general, the Panel's interlocutors in the Government promised to send more information and made clear the Government's belief that Rwanda and Uganda could not finance their involvement in the Democratic Republic of the Congo without the active exploitation of the country's natural resources.

Meetings with rebel movements

24. On 19 October 2000, the Panel travelled from Kinshasa to Gbadolite in an effort to meet Jean-Pierre Bemba, President of the Movement for the Liberation of the Congo (MLC). Mr. Bemba was said to have left for Bumba the very day of the Panel's arrival although he was informed of, and had authorized, its visit.

25. The Panel moved the following day to Goma, where they met with Mr. Ondekane, who was then the First Vice President, and senior representatives of RCD (Goma), including their current president, Adolphe Onsumba. They told the Panel that they had been falsely accused and were not engaged in selling off the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. They further noted that any extraction of natural resources that was taking place was purely artisanal, as the financial means to conduct industrial exploitation were simply not available. The RCD (Goma) leadership recognized that exploitation was taking place, but explained that it was within the framework of normal trade relations. While agreeing to provide the Panel with much of the information it requested, RCD (Goma) reserved the right to abstain from providing any information that could compromise strategic matters, given the current state of war.

26. On 21 October, members of the Panel travelled from Goma to Bunia, where they met with Ernest Wamba dia Wamba, the leader of RCD (Kisangani). According to Mr. Wamba dia Wamba, history was simply repeating itself. First, the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo was not working for the people; second, resources throughout the Democratic Republic of the Congo were being used for purposes other than development; and third, there had always been illegal activity in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, including exploitation of natural resources by nationals and foreigners. He noted that, with the collapse of the State, it was difficult to distinguish between official and unofficial networks of exploitation and that, without a State apparatus in place, illegal activity would continue.

27. In Bunia and Goma, the Panel met with representatives of NGOs and other members of civil society, who were eager to talk about their personal experiences. Some had had goods and property confiscated by soldiers and rebels. Others noted the forced payment of taxes to support the war effort.

28. These representatives, however, showed reluctance to provide the Panel with greater detail due to the risk it would pose to them from local authorities and soldiers. The Panel was also aware of reports of harassment of human rights workers subsequent to their participation in meetings with representatives of other international organizations.

29. The conflict has affected different industries in the Democratic Republic of the Congo in different ways. The industrial production of gold at the Kilo-Moto mines in Orientale Province has ceased and been replaced by artisanal methods as the mines have deteriorated. The lack of maintenance has led to flooding and worsening safety conditions.

C. Uganda

30. President Museveni of Uganda, at his meeting with the Panel, provided a detailed historical perspective of the current problems in the Great Lakes region,

stating that Uganda's presence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was due to instability and lack of effective administration in the country. Thus far, he stated, certain parties were using this situation to their advantage in order to launch attacks against Uganda. The President questioned the assumption that Uganda would exploit the mineral wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo when it was failing to exploit its own mineral wealth. He explained that he had issued specific instructions forbidding soldiers to involve themselves in the exploitation of natural resources. He concluded that if any soldiers of the Ugandan People's Defence Force (UPDF) were found to be engaged in exploitation or commercial activity, they would be punished.

31. On 7 November 2000, the Panel held a day-long meeting with government representatives led by the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, Eriya Kategaya. In attendance were the First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs, the Ministers of Finance, Agriculture and Environment, and a number of senior officials of different ministries (Ministry of Energy and Mineral Development; Ministry of Defence; Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications) and the Civil Aviation Authority.

32. The government representatives stated that Uganda had never been involved in, or benefited materially from, the exploitation of the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. They explained that any illegal exploitation taking place within the Democratic Republic of the Congo was a result of ineffective administration. According to them, UPDF had entered the Democratic Republic of the Congo only because of the instability in the region, in particular along Uganda's western border. They noted that Uganda's presence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was very costly, in terms of lives lost, maintenance of troops, transportation, fuel, logistics and so forth, and that Uganda was losing far more than it could be gaining by exploiting the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.

33. During this session, the Minister of Finance informed the Panel that Uganda's military spending was staying within 2 per cent of its gross domestic product (GDP) in accordance with agreements concluded with bilateral and multilateral donors. Funds intended for the construction of new barracks and higher military salaries had instead been spent on the maintenance of UPDF outside Uganda. The Minister further explained that Uganda had managed to stay within the 2 per cent limit by means of an increase in its GDP and the transfer of fiscal resources from one fiscal year to another.

34. The Panel also met with a number of Ministers and others individually. At one such meeting, the Minister of Defence and senior UPDF officers reiterated their strict adherence to keeping military spending within 2 per cent of GDP. They restated that the UPDF was not engaged in exploitation and that numerous directives to that effect have been issued. UPDF was not involved in administration and remained subordinate to local civil administrators of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. The duties of UPDF were strictly confined to military and security matters.

35. The Panel also met with the Parliamentary Committee on Presidential and Foreign Affairs. The Committee emphasized that Uganda had no desire to have its soldiers in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, but that their presence there was necessitated by security considerations. Noting that they were not aware of any effort on the part of the Ugandan Government to exploit the natural resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo, the members of the Committee urged the Panel

to understand the historical context of the situation. They acknowledged the recent arrival of a large number of Congolese women who have "married" Ugandan soldiers serving in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. They emphasized that soldiers paid dowries and that this could not be considered as exploitation of natural resources.

36. Some Panel members met with different Ministers individually. In meeting with the Minister of Agriculture, the Panel was told that, because of disease and drought, the coffee sector had suffered a great deal during the past 10 years. The Minister said he was not aware of the import of coffee from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to Uganda and that the import and export of coffee were liberalized to such an extent that the Government had no control over those activities.

37. During the meeting at the Ministry of Environment, Land and Water, the Minister said that Uganda was not importing timber from the Democratic Republic of the Congo. He pointed out that some species of trees found in the eastern part of the Democratic Republic of the Congo were also found in Ugandan forests, in particular mahogany. Though it was possible that timber was taken via Uganda from the Democratic Republic of the Congo to Kenya, the transit of timber was not within the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Environment and had no relation to timber imports in Uganda.

D. Rwanda

38. President Kagame received the Panel on 15 November 2000. In his remarks to the Panel, President Kagame declared that Rwanda's presence in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was necessitated by national security. Rwanda had to defend itself against the attacks from the Interahamwe, the forces of the former Forces armées rwandaises (ex-FAR) and other forces allied to President Kabila. Though he denied the involvement of the Rwandan army in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for the exploitation of natural resources, he indicated that cases of soldiers involved in exploitation of natural resources had been brought to his attention and that consequently, the soldiers had been punished.

39. On 14 November, the Panel was received by a committee of Ministers of the Government of Rwanda. The gathering was hosted by the Minister for Foreign Affairs and attended by the Ministers of Finance and Economic Planning; Agriculture, Forests, and Livestock; Works, Transport, and Communication; Energy, Mines, and Water; Land, Resettlements, and Environment; and the Governor of the National Bank of Rwanda.

40. Two themes emerged during the meeting. First, although the international donor community had accused Rwanda of spending too much money on its war effort in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, defence spending accounted for only 29 per cent of current expenditure, or 3.4 per cent of GDP. It was felt that this is a modest amount for a country at war. It was also noted that Rwanda had been following an IMF programme for the past four years and that, therefore, their economy was closely monitored from the outside. Second, repeated emphasis was placed on the importance of understanding that Rwanda was present in the Democratic Republic of the Congo for security reasons. The Panel was encouraged to understand the difficult reality of Rwandan soldiers in the field, who were at war

and were required to move often. This made it unlikely that they could engage in exploitation activities.

41. The Panel was received by General James Kabarebe, Chef d'État Major. General Kabarebe affirmed that the Rwandan army maintained good relations with local populations and administrations. He noted that Rwandan forces in the Democratic Republic of the Congo were subordinate to local administrations and that they had tried to build civil institutions (police, army) in cooperation with the citizens of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Rwandan soldiers buy food supplies from local populations and Rwandan military dispensaries also help care for local populations in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Any Rwandan soldier engaging in unauthorized activity would be punished. Regarding the repeated conflicts between the Rwandan and Ugandan militaries in Kisangani, General Kabarebe insisted that, contrary to popular belief, these had nothing to do with control of natural resources. Rather, they were the eruptions of long-running tensions between the two forces as to who were the superior soldiers.

E. Burundi

42. On meeting the Panel on 17 November 2000, President Buyoya emphasized that Burundi was not present as a belligerent in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and had no territorial intentions there, and that its soldiers were not engaged in the exploitation of natural resources. For years, Burundi had maintained good commercial relations with the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Burundi's primary concern was its security. The Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo could not ensure Burundi's security and, in fact, was supporting rebel groups involved in Burundi's civil war, according to the President. At a subsequent meeting, the Minister of International Relations and Cooperation made the same points.

F. Zimbabwe

43. During a meeting with a senior representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the representative stated his position that the Panel should not investigate Zimbabwe and its allies in the Democratic Republic of the Congo because they were not the exploiters, but rather, the liberators. The aggressors (Uganda, Rwanda, Burundi) were the plunderers. The Panel's investigations should therefore concentrate on those aggressors and not on the allies of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In essence, the official explained that allies could not plunder the resources of the Democratic Republic of the Congo because they were working in cooperation with its Government.

G. Activities in other countries (Cameroon, South Africa and the United Republic of Tanzania)

44. One member of the Panel met with officials in the Port Authority and Customs Departments in Cameroon and the United Republic of Tanzania. While some documentation containing data were provided, officials promised to send additional information or to organize meetings with those members at a later date.

45. Another Panel member travelled to Pretoria to participate in a seminar on the transport of illicit goods by air. The seminar was attended by representatives of the United Kingdom, South Africa, Germany and the United Nations.

H. Current activities

46. Since 4 December 2000, the Panel has been conducting a series of meetings with government officials, the diplomatic community, NGOs, members of civil society and private individuals in Brussels, London and Paris.

I. Future activities

47. Early in 2001, the Panel will conduct preliminary visits to Angola and Namibia. It will also be necessary to undertake follow-up visits to the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Burundi, Cameroon, Rwanda, South Africa, Uganda and the United Republic of Tanzania.

48. Furthermore, there are many places the Panel has not yet visited where it is believed that highly valuable information is available, including several countries in Central Africa, North America, the Middle East, South Asia and Western and Eastern Europe.

49. Travel to additional countries may be necessary according to indications from the Panel's ongoing research.

IV. Next steps

50. During the remaining period of its mandate, the Panel will continue to consider the implications of its inquiries so far, in consultation with all parties to the conflict, as it unearths more information about the situation. It will also devote further study to the laws of the Democratic Republic of the Congo governing the exploitation of natural resources, including agricultural products, flora and fauna.

51. To that end, the Panel will complete its first round of visits to the concerned parties. It will also follow up information it has received or expects to receive from them and from other sources on the nature and extent of the exploitation, the companies and individuals involved, the extent and value of the trade and the use to which the revenues are put. In particular, as required by its mandate, the Panel will continue to examine the links between the exploitation of the natural resources and other forms of wealth in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and the continuation of the conflict.

52. However, on the basis of its experience in the first three months of operations, the Panel has reached the conclusion that it cannot assemble a sufficiently detailed, precise and coherent picture of the situation in the three months that remain. The complexity of the situation, the vast territories involved, the multiplicity of the actors involved, the difficulties of travel and communications, the lack of cooperation on the part of some Governments and other sources of information and the security risks arising from the conflict pose formidable problems. Moreover, not only is the Panel actively following up leads suggested to it by its various

interlocutors, it is also still awaiting much of the information that has already been promised to it by the officials of various Governments and other sources.

53. For all the above reasons, and in order to obtain as much information as possible and to conduct a thorough analysis, the Panel would invite the Security Council to consider granting an extension of its mandate for three months, until mid-June 2001.

54. The Expert Panel on the Illegal Exploitation of Natural Resources and Other Forms of Wealth of the Democratic Republic of the Congo wishes to express its deep appreciation to the government officials, diplomats, NGOs, individual relief workers, journalists and others who assisted it in its inquiries. The list below is incomplete in deference to the wishes of those who requested anonymity.

55. The Panel received excellent logistical support by MONUC, both in Kinshasa and outside the capital. MONUC also assisted the Panel in its contact and meetings with officials of the Government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo and authorities in the occupied zones. The Panel also received invaluable assistance from the United Nations Development Programme.

Annex

List of countries visited and representatives of Governments and organizations interviewed

In Kenya:

Government officials: Minister for Foreign Affairs; Kenya Ports Authority; Kenya Customs and Excise Departments

Representatives of States: Belgium; Democratic Republic of the Congo; France; Russian Federation; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United Kingdom Special Representative for the Great Lakes region; Zimbabwe

United Nations agencies and offices: MONUC; Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General of the United Nations for the Great Lakes region; UNDP; United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP); United Nations Office at Nairobi

In the Democratic Republic of the Congo:

Government officials: General Commissioner of the Government for relations with MONUC; National Bank of the Congo; Central Bank; Department of Forests; Institut Congolais pour la Conservation de la Nature (ICCN); Minister of Land Management, Environment and Tourism; Minister of Agriculture and Livestock; Minister of Human Rights; Minister of Economy, Commerce and Industry; Minister of Energy; Minister of Finance and Budget; Ministry of Mines; Minister of State for Petroleum; Minister of Transportation and Communications; Ministry of Lands; l'Office national des douanes et accises

Observatoire Gouvernance-Transparence (OGT)

Representatives of States: Belgium; China; Diplomatic Corps of Kinshasa; France; Italy; United States of America

United Nations agencies and offices: MONUC; Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General; the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO); Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; UNDP; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees; Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights; United Nations Children's Fund; World Food Programme; World Health Organization

Rebel movements: Mouvement pour la Libération du Congo (MLC); Rally for Congolese Democracy (Goma); Rally for Congolese Democracy-Liberation Movement RCD-ML/Kisangani

In Uganda:

Government officials: President of the Republic; Vice President of the Republic; First Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs; Minister of Defense; Minister of Energy and Mineral Development; Minister of State for Environment

State Aviation Authority, Internal Revenue Authority, Minister of Agriculture, Animal and Fisheries, Ministry of Works, Transport and Communications; Parliamentary Committee on Presidential and Foreign Affairs

Representatives of States: Belgium; Denmark; European Union Special Envoy to the Great Lakes region; France; Italy; Russian Federation; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland

United Nations agencies: UNDP; heads of United Nations agencies in Kampala

Local media

In Rwanda:

Government officials: President of the Republic of Rwanda; Minister for Foreign Affairs; Chef d'etat Major; Minister of Energy, Water and Natural Resources; Minister of Finance and Economic Planning; Minister of Agriculture, Forests, and Livestock; Minister of Works, Transports, and Communication; Minister of Energy, Mines, and Water; Minister of Land, Resettlements, and Environment; National Bank of Rwanda; Secretary-General of Commerce, Industry and Tourism

Representatives of States: Belgium; Canada; China; Office of the European Union delegation; France; Germany; the Netherlands; Russian Federation; Switzerland; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America

United Nations agencies and offices: MONUC; FAO; heads of United Nations agencies represented in Rwanda; ICTR; Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs; UNDP; Economic Commission for Africa

In Burundi:

Government officials: Minister of International Relations and Cooperation; Ministry of Finance; Minister of Agriculture and Livestock; Minister of National and Regional Development and Environment; Minister of Transportation, Post and Telecommunications

Representatives of States: Belgium; Democratic Republic of the Congo; France; United States of America

United Nations agencies and offices, and international organizations: Office of the Special Representative of the Secretary-General in Burundi; MONUC; UNDP; World Bank

In Zimbabwe:

Government officials: Minister of Energy and Mines; Senior Secretary for Foreign Affairs; Chief Executive Officer, Civil Aviation Authority

Representatives of States: Belgium; China; France; Russian Federation; United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland; United States of America

United Nations agencies and international organizations: Heads of all United Nations agencies represented in Zimbabwe; UNDP

NGOs and media